

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A cache memory which holds, for each cache entry, order data indicating an access order, and which replaces a cache entry that is oldest in the access order, the cache entry holding unit data for caching, ~~said cache memory~~ comprising:

a modifier that modifies ~~modification unit operable to modify~~ the order data regardless of an actual access order; and

a selector that selects ~~selection unit operable to select~~, based on the modified order data, a cache entry to be replaced,

wherein said selector selects the cache entry to be replaced when a cache miss occurs and a cache entry having an oldest-order flag attached is present, and

wherein said selector selects the cache entry to be replaced in accordance with the order data when the cache entry having the oldest-order flag attached is not present.

2. (Currently Amended) The cache memory according to claim Claim-1,

wherein said modifier comprises ~~modification unit~~ includes:

a specifier that specifies ~~specifying unit operable to specify~~ a cache entry that holds data which is within an address range specified by a processor; and

an oldest-orderer that causes ~~oldest-ordering unit operable to cause~~ the order data of the specified cache entry to be become-oldest in the access order, regardless of the actual access order.

3. (Currently Amended) The cache memory according to claim Claim-2, wherein said specifier comprises ~~specifying unit~~ has:

a first converter that converts ~~conversion unit operable to convert~~ a starting address of the

address range to a start line address that indicates a starting line within the address range when,
~~in the case where the starting address indicates a midpoint in line data;~~

a second converter that converts ~~conversion unit operable to convert~~ an ending address of
the address range to an end line address that indicates an ending line within the address range
when, ~~in the case where the ending address indicates~~ the a midpoint in the line data; and

a judger that determines ~~judgment unit operable to judge~~ whether ~~or not~~ there is a cache
entry that holds data corresponding to each line address from the start line address to the end line
address.

4. (Currently Amended) The cache memory according to claim ~~Claim~~-3,

wherein said oldest-orderer attaches ~~oldest-ordering unit is operable to attach~~, to the order
data, the ~~an~~-oldest-order flag which indicates that the access order is oldest.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Currently Amended) The cache memory according to claim ~~Claim~~-5,

wherein the cache entry has, as the order data, a 1-bit order flag that indicates whether the
access order is old or new, and

wherein said selector selects ~~selection unit is operable to select~~ as the cache entry[[,]] to
be replaced, the cache entry in which the order flag indicates old when the, ~~in the case where a~~
cache entry having ~~that has~~ the oldest-order flag attached is not present.

7. (Currently Amended) The cache memory according to claim ~~Claim~~-1,

wherein said modifier modifies ~~modification unit is operable to modify~~ the order data so

that one cache entry is indicated as an shows-Nth cache entry in the access order, wherein and

N is a number indicating any one of: (a) ~~a number indicating an~~ the oldest cache entry in the access order; (b) a number indicating a the-newest cache entry in the access order; (c) ~~a number indicating an~~ Nth cache entry from the oldest in the access order; and (d) ~~a number indicating an~~ Nth cache entry from the newest cache entry in the access order.

8. (Currently Amended) The cache memory according to claim Claim-1, wherein said modifier modification unit comprises has:

an instruction detector that detects ~~detection unit operable to detect~~ that a memory access instruction that includes a modification directive for the access order has been executed; and

a rewriter that rewrites ~~rewrite unit operable to rewrite~~ the order data for a cache entry that is accessed due to the memory access instruction.

9. (Currently Amended) The cache memory according to claim Claim-1, wherein said modifier comprises modification unit includes:

a holder that holds ~~holding unit operable to hold~~ an address range specified by a processor;

a searcher that searches ~~searching unit operable to search~~ for a cache entry that holds data corresponding to the address range held in said holding unit; and

a rewriter that rewrites ~~rewrite unit operable to rewrite~~ the order data so that the access order of the cache entry searched for by said searcher ~~searching unit~~ is an Nth cache entry in the access order.

10. (Currently Amended) A control method for controlling a cache memory which holds, in each

cache entry, order data indicating an access order, and which replaces a cache entry that is oldest in the access order, the cache entry holding unit data for caching, said method comprising:

~~a modification step for modifying the order data regardless of an actual access order; and~~

~~a selecting step for selecting, based on the modified order data, a cache entry to be replaced,~~

wherein the cache entry to be replaced is selected when a cache miss occurs and a cache entry having an oldest-order flag attached is present, and

wherein the cache entry to be replaced is selected in accordance with the order data when the cache entry having the oldest-order flag attached is not present.